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Syracuse, Sept. 10, 1864.

Dear Wife:

Yesterday morning we took our leave of the hospitable abode of our Peterboro' friends for this city. During our stay there, all were unremitted in their kind attentions to us, manifestly desirous of making our visit as agreeable as possible. When I go there again, I hope you will be able to accompany me, delivered from your present paralytic infirmity; for great and unfeigned was their regret that you were not in proper condition to be one of our party. It is Gerrit Smith alone who has made Peterboro' famous; for the village itself is utterly insignificant. Besides his own residence, there are only two or three others in the place that are at all commodious. There is no ostentation in his manner of living, but every thing is on a liberal scale, the tables are loaded with well prepared dishes, and a hearty welcome is given to every guest. No one knows better than he that "it is more blessed to give than to receive."



We arrived at the depot in this city at 1 o'clock, where we found our ever attentive and dearly beloved friend, Samuel J. May, awaiting our coming. He drove directly to his house, and were warmly greeted by Mrs. May and Charlotte Coffin. The former was specially glad to see Fanny, as it was for the first time since the birth of J. After dinner, Mr. Wilkinson sent his carriage for Fanny, Mr. May and myself to take a ride, and a charming excursion we had of it. We made a momentary call at the Sedgewicks, and in the evening Mr. S., and his only son and two daughters, called upon us, and also Mr. and Mrs. Barnes, (who ~~live~~<sup>live</sup> in a very beautiful house opposite,) and we had a very social time.

The weather is perfection itself. This forenoon we have occupied in a still more extended ride through the city and its environs, in Mr. Wilkinson's carriage, he very kindly accompanying us, and making the ride extremely pleasant by the information he communicated on the route. He is very



intelligent and agreeable, and from appearances must be doing a lucrative business. He has purchased the old but beautiful homestead now occupied by Mr. May - the house, grove, and eight acres of land, all for a little more than we gave for our birds' nest at Roxbury. "When this cruel war is over," he intends pulling down the old house, and erecting a handsome edifice. Mr. May is seeking for a dwelling not far from his church, on account of his difficulty of walking. In other respects he appears to be in good health.

Fanny is delighted with all that she sees; and the charming scenery and magnificent views around Syracuse have taken her entirely by surprise. Never have I had such opportunities as now to realize how indescribably fine they are. I know of no inland city that is so well provided for in this respect.

This evening we shall all take tea at Mr. Wilkinson's. The Sedgewicks and others will be present.



Since dinner, Mr. May has handed me your welcome letter, dated the 8th inst., announcing that all is going on well with you, and giving those details about home and visitors which are always so interesting when one is abroad. I am glad you are having Mrs. French to try her healing powers upon you, and trust that the good Quaker physician, who is said to operate through her, will be able to give you very material assistance. Let the experiment be fairly made, and mix as much faith with it as you can; for strong belief has often much to do with surprising cures.

Fanny received your and Frank's joint letter at Peterboro' gladly, and we both wrote to you from that place.

Give our kindest regards to Mr. and Mrs. Thaxter, Miss Cannon, Sarah, Winna, &c., &c. Mr. and Mrs. May and Charlotte Coffin send theirs to you, all deeply regretting that you are not here.

Good bye, dearest one! W. L. G.